Mr. M. V. Cherian.—I myself have written a letter to the Chief Engineer complaining against this.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I know that in Mattancherri the present quantity of water supplied is slightly inadequate. Apart from that fundamental difficulty I have not any notice of any difficulty of the magnitude mentioned by the Member.

Mr. M. V. Cherian.—The hydrants are kept open for half an hour a day after 6 o'clock.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—My information is that hydrants are kept open for about 8 hours a day.

Mr. M. V. Cherian.—No.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I am certain that the Member's information is incorrect. But I will look into the matter.

Grant put and carried.

The Cochin Limitation Regulation Amendment Bill.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I rise to move that the following amendments may be made to the Cochin Limitation Regulation Amendment Bill that was once passed by this Council and returned for reconsideration. The first amendment that I propose is to delete item No. 2 of the second schedule attached to the Bill. Item No. 2 is the Cochin Limitation Amendment Regulation. On scrutiny it was noticed that there was no such Regulation. The second amendment is with regard to the removal of the word 'do.' that occurs in column 3 against item 3 so as to introduce the heading 'The Cochin Limitation Amendment Regulation' which would be taken away by the first amendment. I move that the amendment that I propose namely, 'delete item No. 2 of the second schedule attached to the Bill' be adopted.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I second it.

Amendment put and carried.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I move the second amendment which runs thus:—"Delete the word 'do' occurring in column 3 of the said schedule against item 3 and substitute for it the words 'The Cochin Limitation Amendment Regulation'."

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Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I second it.

Amendment put and carried.

The Cochin Prevention of Dedication Bill.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.— I propose to move three amendments presently in connection with the Bill to Prevent the Dedication of Women to Hindu Temples. The first amendment I propose to move is this:

"Delete the preamble and substitute for it the following: Preamble. 'Whereas it is expedient to prevent the dedication of women to Hindu temples, it is enacted as follows'."

The present preamble runs as follows:—

"Whereas the practice of dedicating women to Hindu temples results in such women leading a life of prostitutes, and whereas it is desirable and expedient to terminate the practice of such dedication, it is enacted as follows." It was thought that it was a wholesale statement and so it was thought that the preamble should be deleted and a less offensive preamble should be introduced. I propose that the existing preamble be deleted and the preamble which I shall presently read be substituted. I move that the following amendment be adopted: "Delete the preamble and substitute for it the following:

'Preamble: Whereas it is expedient to prevent the dedication of women to Hindu temples, it is hereby enacted as follows'."

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I second it.

Amendment put and carried.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I move the amendment "Delete the word 'and' occurring after the word '*chela*' in sections 2 and 4 of the Bill and substitute for it the word 'or'." That again requires a little explanation. In section 2 Hon'ble Members will notice there are these words: "The performance of 'sanctioning *chela*' and 'wedding to dagger' or any other similar ceremony in the precincts of Hindu temples or other places of worship, or elsewhere, with a view to dedicate a Hindu woman is hereby declared illegal and shall be illegal". The amendment attempts to substitute the word 'or' for the word 'and' occurring between the words 'sanctioning chela' and 'wedding to dagger'. I move, Sir, that the amendment be adopted.

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